AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 11, 17, 18, and 29 have been amended without any intention of disclaiming equivalents thereof. Claim 16 has been cancelled without prejudice to its subsequent reintroduction into this application or introduction into a related application. The following list of claims replaces all prior versions and lists of claims in the application.

What is claimed is:

1. – 10. (Cancelled).

11. (Currently amended) A sterile, liquid pharmaceutical composition for intranasal administration to a mammal comprising: an effective amount of midazolam or pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof for inducing rapid sedation, anxiolysis, amnesia or anesthesia when administered intranasally to a mammal, from about 15 % to about 25 % by volume polyethylene glycol, and propylene glycol; wherein the midazolam achieves a time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) within about 10 minutes after intranasal administration of the pharmaceutical composition.

12. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein the polyethylene glycol comprises from about 15% to about 25% by volume and the propylene glycol constitutes from about 75% to about 85% by volume of the composition.

13. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein the composition contains a preservative.

14. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein the composition is preservative-free.

15. (Original) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein the composition contains an anesthetic agent.

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein the ~~composition~~ midazolam achieves a time to maximum plasma concentration (T_{max}) within about 5 minutes after intranasal administration.

18. (Currently amended) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 11, wherein the ~~composition~~ midazolam achieves a maximum plasma concentration (C_{max}) of about 40 ng/mL from a 2.5 mg dose or about 80 ng/mL from a 5 mg dose after intranasal administration.

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Previously presented) A method of treating a mammal in need of rapid sedation, anxiolysis, amnesia, or induction of anesthesia comprising intranasally administering to the mammal the composition of claim 11, wherein the rapid sedation, anxiolysis, amnesia, or induction of anesthesia occurs within 5 minutes after intranasal administration.

21 - 26. (Cancelled)

27. (Previously presented) The composition of claim 11, wherein the polyethylene glycol is polyethylene glycol 400.

28. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein 5 mg of midazolam is administered to the mammal so as to provide rapid sedation, anxiolysis, or induction of anesthesia.

29. (Currently amended) The composition of claim 11, wherein the composition comprises ~~no less than~~ 25 mg/mL midazolam or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.